Part-time Chairman in Government Companies

4474. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKERDAVE : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) how many part-time chairmen are working in Central Government's companies;

(b) how many posts of Managing Directors, Directors in the field of project, planning, works, Technical and Finance are lying vacant in various PSUs during the last two years;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to these vacancies PSUs suffered losses; and

(d) what action has been taken in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (b) There are 74 posts of part-time Chairman in Central PSUs. Five posts of Chairman cum Managing Director/Managing Director, four posts of Director (Finance) and one post of Director (Technical) are lying vacant for more than two years. There are various reasons like old and obsolete plant & machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilisation, excess manpower, heavy interest burden, etc., for losses suffered by PSUs. It would, therefore, be difficult to attribute any single factor for losses. Filling up vacancies at Board level is a continuous process and necessary steps in this regard are taken by the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

Increase in Prices of Maruti Cars

4475. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of Maruti Cars and other small and medium cars' have been increased following the budget.

(b) if so, to what extent, indicating the earlier and revised prices of each model;

(c) how far the increase is attributable to leview in the Central Budget; and

(d) how far the manufacturers have absorbed the increase in the cost o" production on account of additional levies?